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Stelmach backlash key to win: Hinman

BYELECTION The new Wildrose Alliance member of the Alberta legislature says he won Monday's by-election in Calgary because voters liked his policies and are upset with Tory Premier Ed Stelmach.

Paul Hinman says voters told him Stelmach has mismanaged the provincial economy and health system and runs a tight-fisted caucus that brooks no dissent.

Hinman made history when he broke the Tories 40-year hold on the riding of Calgary-Glenmore.

Tory candidate Diane Colley-Urquhart finished a distant third, while Avalon Roberts of the Alberta Liberals was a close second.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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Automotive pg 11

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On the web
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NHL

TODD KOROL/REUTERS

Flames defencemen Staffan Kronwall hits Edmonton Oilers defencemen Steve Staios into the boards in last night's game at the Saddledome. The Oilers won 4-1 in pre-season action. **Story, page 9.**

AHS under fire over CEO bonus

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Health-care lobbyists are questioning the motives behind a potential $144,000 bonus for the Alberta Health Service's CEO if he can slash costs and decrease waiting times.

AHS released yesterday CEO Dr. Stephen Duckett's performance expectations to reach the bonus and it's based on the following: 30 per cent for maintaining a balanced budget, 30 per cent on quality of care improvement and 40 per cent based on his ability to improve patient access to care. Duckett makes a base salary of $575,000.

But the formula just doesn't add up, according to Friends of Medicare executive director David Eggen.

"You can't take a billion dollars of the system and then expect to also decrease the wait times and increase the quality — that just doesn't make sense."

Eggen believes the bonus is heading the system into the wrong direction.

"We're skeptical of the intentions. We know he is here to make cuts and paid bonuses to do the dirty work for (the government) and then at the end of the day go home."

Duckett said the performance objectives are to improve the health-care system.

Wait times for complex cases in the emergency department are expected to be reduced from 16 to eight hours over the next three years and less complex cases from 5.6 to four hours.

Drug-resistant swine flu case discovered in province

CARMEN WALL
for Metro Canada

Flu Outbreak

HEALTH Alberta Health Services has confirmed Alberta's first case of drug-resistant swine flu.

Laboratory testing confirmed that a sample taken from an adult Alberta woman in August was oseltamivir-resistant. Senior medical officer Dr. Gerry Predy said the findings are significant because oseltamivir, or Tamiflu, is the most common antiviral used to treat influenza.

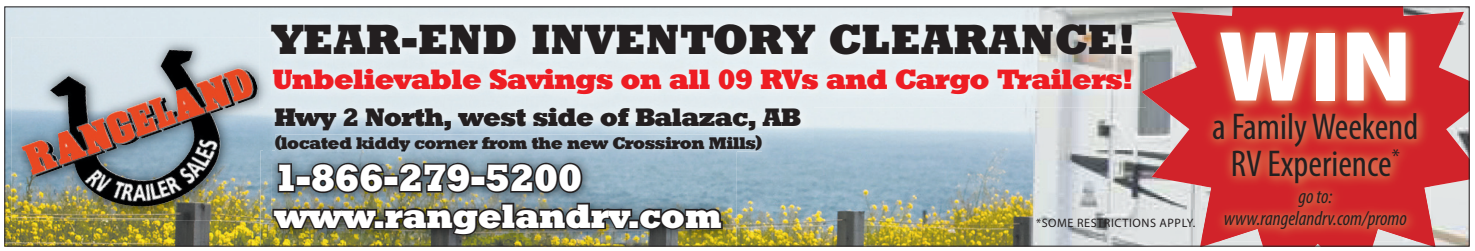
"It's always a concern that there is resistance but it isn't unexpected," Predy said at yesterday's press conference.

"This isn't something people should be alarmed about," he added.

Predy said drug-resistant strains are still treatable with other antivirals, but it will be harder to get the illness under control.

"This won't change our approach in any way," said Predy, even though antiviral medications are a key part of the strategy for fighting H1N1.

Predy said this is an isolated case.



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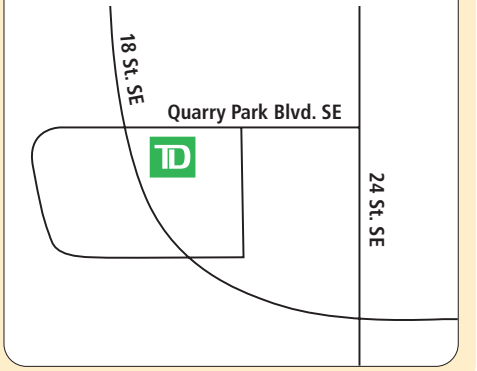

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Local

Kreviazuk comes to town Dec. 12

Juno-winning recording artist Chantal Kreviazuk will perform at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium Dec. 12 as a part of her cross-Canada tour for her new album, Plain Jane. Tickets go on sale Sept. 18 at 10 a.m. through ticketmaster.ca or 403-777-0000. METRO CALGARY

2009 Festival of Media Awards METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Warrant issued in '06 death

MANHUNT Calgary police have issued a Canada-wide warrant for 26-year-old Ryan Charles Michael Everett in relation to a three-year-old homicide. On Aug. 27, 2006 police were called to 4 Avenue and Centre Street SE where a body was removed from a vehicle that fled the scene. The victim was identified as Eric Regimald, 23, of Calgary. Everett is being sought on one count of manslaughter and is believed to be hiding in the Vancouver area. METRO CALGARY

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ROBIN KUSIK/METRO CALGARY

Members and Volunteers from the Mary A Tidlund Charitable Foundation and Emmanuel Foundation help gather playground pieces recycled from the City of Calgary, to be shipped to Third World countries as part of the International Playground Project.

Play it forward

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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For two Alberta charitable foundations, children's playgrounds are more than just child's play — to a child across the world it can bring a smile to their sad faces.

That's why volunteers with the Emmanuel Foundation (EF) and the Mary A. Tidlund Foundation are working with the City of Calgary to recycle old and used playgrounds from the city and bring them to children in other countries who haven't even seen one before.

"When you see their faces light up and three or four hundred kids jumping on the playground — it's amazing, there is nothing like it," EF executive director Lyle Johnson said as he loaded a truck destined for Tobago.

Johnson helps bring old playgrounds worth $30,000 to $50,000 to developing countries like Trinidad and Kenya, but says the City of Calgary is a huge factor.

"Otherwise they would just go to waste so we thought this was a great idea. We have really hit a home run, it's been very successful."

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News in brief

ESCAPE A man serving a 24-year sentence escaped from the Bowden Institution on Monday night and RCMP consider him armed and dangerous. Shawn Thomas Evjen was discovered missing around 9 p.m. Evjen, 46, is five-foot-seven with red hair and blue eyes, and weighs 166 pounds. METRO CALGARY

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Calgary Centennial Arenas expansion gets underway today
The South West Arena Society will officially break ground on the expansion of the Calgary Centennial Arenas during a ceremony today with Mayor Dave Bronconnier and former Calgary Flames player Jim Peplinski. METRO CALGARY

Targeting crime before it develops

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

A new pilot project partnering police, schools and social workers and targeting at-risk youth in the city was launched yesterday.

SafeCom (Safe Communities) is a $1.4-million initiative to be gauged over the next three years and is designed to support children showing risk of future criminal behaviour by intervening at the earliest stages, according to Alberta Justice Minister Alison Redford.

"This really is a one of a kind program in this country and that's what makes it so exciting," Redford said. "This is about addressing the root causes of crime long before anyone ends up in courts or becomes a victim."

Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson was also on hand for the announcement and was equally excited about the Multi-agency School Support Teams (MASST).

MAAST will partner the Calgary police, City of Calgary community and neighbourhood services, both Calgary school boards and social workers into four teams who will work closely in communities to identify students for the project.

"Addressing these particular risk factors is critical in preventing young people from going down the wrong path … and reduce the chance of them coming into contact with police when they get older," Hanson said.

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Users happy with ParkPlus system: Poll

MEREDITH O'HARA
for Metro Calgary

DOWNTOWN The Calgary Parking Authority is defending themselves against claims from the Calgary Downtown Association that the parking system in the city is the main deterrent to doing business downtown.

"Simply that is not true," said Dale Fraser, the parking authority's general manager.

"We want to ask them to stop pointing the finger at downtown parking."

The parking authority released a poll yesterday showing Calgarians are generally happy with the new, high-tech ParkPlus system.

Fraser said the poll showed 75 per cent of people happy with the system.

He said the highest satisfaction came from people with cellphone accounts — at 97 per cent.

Those people are able to pay through an account accessed by their cellphone.

Sixty-three per cent of Calgarians surveyed said ParkPlus was better than the old parking meter system.

Fraser also said CPA revenues and tickets are up, but that Calgarians are getting $150,000 back a month through their cell phone accounts.

Further improvements to the system are expected in 2010 including upgrades to the cellphone account system.

News in brief

ENVIRONMENT Water drained from the Village Square and Southland Leisure Centres will be filtered and then used for bridge deck cleaning and tree watering, in an arrangement made between the City of Calgary Parks and Roads departments. Randy Spark, Southland Leisure Centre building operations supervisor called the environmental partnership a 'great initiative.'

RESEARCH The University of Calgary will be the centre of a new research network focusing on advancing 'made-in-Canada' solutions for solid oxide fuel cells for power generation. The network includes 21 research groups from universities and government, partnered with Canadian industries, including Calgary-based industrial partners ATCO Gas, Global Thermoelectric, NOVA Chemicals Corp., Shell Canada Energy, and Versa Power Systems.

METRO CALGARY

Afghan bomb attacks rising: Report
The federal government's latest report on the Afghan mission shows the number of roadside bomb attacks in Kandahar skyrocketed by 108 per cent last spring. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Ottawa takes aim at white-collar crime

Stiffer sentences will deter fraudsters, say victims

The Harper government is vowing to crack down on white-collar crime.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson announced today that he will introduce legislation soon to impose mandatory jail sentences on fraudsters.

He made the announcement as organizations representing white-collar victims descended on Ottawa to applaud the action and demand more.

Victims — some of whom lost millions of dollars — say the stiffer sentences will act as a deterrent to Ponzi schemes and stock and corporate frauds.

Victims groups stressed that the federal and provincial governments need to support tougher sentences with more funding.

They say Ottawa and other provinces should follow the lead of Quebec, which is spending an extra $6 million to hire 20 new financial-fraud police officers and three new Crown prosecutors.

They also say Ottawa should create an independent securities crime unit to investigate financial crime, adding that the RCMP has so far proved ineffective and at times disinterested.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ponzi accusations

- The renewed focus on white-collar crime comes after Montreal investment dealer Earl Jones was charged with fraud in July for allegedly operating a Ponzi scheme that swindled about 150 investors of at least $30 million. As well, two Alberta men were charged Monday with operating another Ponzi-type scheme.

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Vancouver **Stunt wedding**

JEFF HOSS CHARLTON

Rick Harker and his bride Marlene Hoar rappel off a 19-storey office building in Vancouver yesterday. The couple were married by a pastor who also dangled from the building. Check out video of the event at metronews.ca/canada.

Bloc to back Tories on budget vote

POLITICS Stephen Harper's minority government is poised to survive at least its first confidence test this week, thanks to the very separatists and socialists so often derided by the prime minister.

Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe announced yesterday his party will support the government on a crucial budget vote Friday. The vote is on a ways-and-means motion that paves the way for implementation of a host of budget measures, including the popular home-renovation tax credit.

"We will support it since those are things that we've asked (for) ourselves since last November. So no problem with that," Duceppe said.

The NDP is expected to follow suit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

LAW A Manitoba man says he and his wife were legally exercising their freedom of expression when they sent their daughter to school with racial slogans and symbols written on her skin.

POLITICS Prime Minister Stephen Harper will publicly reach out to Brian Mulroney, and by extension his Tory predecessor's powerful sphere of influence, in a video to be shown this week at a gala. Sources say Harper recorded a congratulatory message that will be aired tomorrow at the celebration of Mulroney's 1984 electoral victory at the helm of the Progressive Conservative party. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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British TV chef dies

Keith Floyd, a flamboyant chef who shared his passion for good food and fine wine with a generation of British television viewers, died Monday. He was 65. THE CANADIAN PRESS

World

Harry's in the money

Prince Harry, left, turned 25 yesterday, becoming an even more eligible bachelor as he gained access to part of his inheritance from his mother, Diana. Harry and his brother Prince William were left equal shares in their mother's estate following her death in 1997. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man kills intruder with sword

BALTIMORE A Johns Hopkins University student armed with a samurai sword killed a suspected burglar in a garage behind his off-campus home early yesterday, hours after someone broke in and stole electronics.

Some shocked neighbours said they heard bloodcurdling screams in an area just blocks from the university. Police held the student, a junior chemistry major who turns 21 on Sunday, for several hours, but no charges were filed by early afternoon, said Baltimore police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi. Around 1:20 a.m., the student heard noises behind the home and noticed a door to the garage was open, Guglielmi said. He grabbed the sword and confronted the intruder, who was crouching beneath a counter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UN finds 'war crimes'

Both sides cited in probe of Gaza conflict

A UN investigation concluded yesterday that both sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza committed war crimes and possible crimes against humanity, raising the prospect that officials may seek prosecution in the International Criminal Court.

The probe led by former South African judge Richard Goldstone concluded that "Israel committed actions amounting to war crimes, possibly crimes against humanity," during its Dec. 27 to Jan. 18 military operations against Palestinian rocket squads in the Gaza Strip.

In a 575-page report, Goldstone and three investigators also found evidence "that Palestinian armed groups committed war crimes, as well as possibly crimes against humanity."

Goldstone said the probe, which included interviews as well as a review of documents, photos and 30 videos, was completed yesterday morning.

"There should be no impunity for international crimes that are committed," said Goldstone, a veteran war crimes investigator who has served as chief prosecutor for the UN criminal tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. "It's very important that justice should be done."

The report found seven incidents in which civilians were shot while leaving their homes trying to run for safety, waving white flags and sometimes even following Israeli instructions, as well as the targeting of a mosque at prayer time, killing 15 people, were also war crimes.

A "direct and intentional attack" on the Al Quds Hospital and an adjacent ambulance depot in Gaza City "may constitute war crimes," the report said.

On the Palestinian side, the report found armed groups firing rockets into southern Israel from Gaza failed to distinguish between military targets and the civilian population.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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India Dalai Lama opens retreat

ASHWINI BHATIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Dalai Lama begins a three-day religious talk at the Tsuglakhang temple in Dharmsala, India, yesterday. A top adviser to U.S. President Barack Obama met Monday with the Dalai Lama and briefed him about the Obama administration's approach to Tibet.

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Comment

Greenpeace takes aim at oilsands

TheWestView

Those Greenpeace people are at it again. This time they're not chasing down whalers and draping themselves over their harpoons.

This time they're taking it straight to Canada's engine of economic growth, that driver of the petro-loonie, the oilsands.

This week, just in time for today's meeting between Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama, Greenpeace issued a report called Dirty — How The Tarsands Are Fuelling Global Climate Change, which claims the oilsands produce more greenhouse gases than some countries. And as an added distraction, activists chained themselves to a giant dump truck yesterday at Shell's Albian Sands site in northern Alberta.

First National Geographic, now Greenpeace. The oilsands' image is so bad that one professor at the University of Calgary thinks the Alberta government should hire a PR firm to fight back in case all this bad publicity eventually hurts foreign investment in Alberta, especially from Europe, which has no seals left to club or oil to extract and is therefore concentrating on exporting sanctimoniousness.

Don't get me wrong. I have a great deal of respect for Andrew Nikiforuk, the great Canadian journalist who wrote the report, certainly more than I have for fearless front-line eco-warriors and their apparently endless supply of chains. And if you don't think the oilsands have environmental consequences, tell that to the 1,600 dead ducks who went for their last swim in a Syncrude tailings pond last spring.

But while it makes a good headline, the countries cited by Nikiforuk are Estonia and Lithuania, two industrial micro-states, while Canada is one of the world's largest — and by far its friendliest — supplier of energy. So if Osama bin Laden declares himself king of the OPEC states, the oilsands will be there to keep the lights on, something both Europe and Greenpeace should meditate on when they can take a moment from all that declaring.

For those who think it's unfair or cynical to plead a geopolitical case, there's always the fact that coal-fired energy generation is far and away the largest producer of greenhouse gases, but for some reason, Greenpeace has failed to chain itself around a coal-fired generating plant. That's probably because they can't get into the U.S. thanks to the ceaseless vigilance of Homeland Security.

Maybe Greenpeace should chain itself to the Netherlands instead, which is one of the top five greenhouse gas producers on the planet, despite those picturesque windmills. Plus, unlike the U.S., it's a real pushover, homeland security-wise.

Greenpeace is certainly not likely to pick another fight with France, despite its addiction to nuclear power, an environmental non-non. As I recall, the last time Greenpeace tried to get in the way of *l'épreuve nucléair*, the French employed a memorably explosive brand of public relations.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: If there was an election today, what party would you vote for and why?

Jesse MacCaull
age 22, Calgary

A: I would vote NDP ... I'd rather just not have another election to be honest with you.

Aaron Cossette
age 29, Calgary

A: Probably with Harper again. I think he's doing a good job and I don't think at this time calling an election is the best thing.

David Leeder
age 24, Edmonton

A: I see a definite lack of leadership in all parties in the country ... I wouldn't vote for anyone right now.

Debbie Cole
age 21, Ottawa

A: It's hard to say. I don't agree with a lot of the decisions the Conservatives have made, but I still think of the sponsorship scandal with the Liberals. I'm not over that.

Tony Clark
age 29, Toronto

A: I'd probably have to go with NDP just because I'm really pissed off with both the Conservatives and the Liberals. They've been really childish with everything.

Ryan Swain
age 19, Halifax

A: The Green party I guess. I just don't like what's going on with the other parties right now who have the most power. I'd probably go with the Green party to start something new, something fresh.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Recession probably over, says U.S. Fed chairman
U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke said yesterday that the worst recession since the 1930s is probably over. Bernanke said the economy likely is growing now, but it won't be sufficient to prevent the unemployment rate, now at a 26-year high of 9.7 per cent, from rising. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

OIL The oilsands were the target yesterday of activists on the eve of a meeting between Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama. Two dozen Greenpeace members chained themselves to equipment in Shell's Albian Sands mine in northwestern Alberta. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Air losses worse than post-9-11 levels: IATA

The airline industry says recent losses have been worse than what they were after the 9-11 terrorist attacks, because of rising fuel costs and lower revenues.

The International Air Transport Association, a Montreal-based association of airlines, today painted a grim picture of an industry in crisis.

CEO Giovanni Bisignani told a Washington news conference that expected losses in 2009 would be $2 billion US more than previously forecast.

IATA predicts that the global airline industry will lose $11 billion in 2009, with an estimated loss of more than $6 billion in the first half alone.

"The global economic storm may be abating, but airlines have not yet found safe harbour," Bisignani said.

"The crisis continues."

Bisignani said revenues this year will be $80 billion US below 2008 levels.

Passenger and cargo revenues are expected to fall in 2009, led by a 20 per cent drop in demand for business travel. Passenger traffic is also expected to decline by four per cent, and cargo by 24 per cent, for 2009.

IATA says the situation is being made worse by the rising cost of fuel. Spot oil prices have been driven up sharply in anticipation of improved economic conditions.

The group estimates losses next year of $3.8 billion. It doesn't expect airline profits until 2011 at the earliest. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Former exec claims Scotia made fake Facebook profile

INVESTIGATION Jamaican police are investigating a bizarre allegation that a fictitious Facebook profile was created to defame the former head of the Bank of Nova Scotia's Jamaican operations.

Scotiabank confirmed yesterday it is working with police.

William (Bill) Clarke, the 59-year-old former chief executive officer of Scotiabank Jamaica, complained in July that someone purporting to be him had created a fake Facebook page in his name. Clarke claims he has never been on Facebook and that friends alerted him to the false profile, which he said bore "defamatory statements." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Group takes Redskins case to highest court
A group of American Indians who find the Washington Redskins name offensive wants the U.S. Supreme Court to take up the matter. The seven Native Americans have been working through the court system since 1992 to have the Redskins trademarks declared invalid. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Slicin' with Kimbo

Season 10 of UFC's The Ultimate Fighter reality show starts tonight. Internet sensation Kimbo Slice, left, put aside a dispute with UFC president Dana White to take part in the show and viewers will see a different side of the street fighter. Fellow cast members have described Slice as "a nice guy" and a "really good cook." The show airs on Spike and Rogers Sportsnet. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Oilers douse Flames

NHL RESULT

Edmonton 4 Calgary 1

Patrick O'Sullivan had two goals, as the Edmonton Oilers downed the Calgary Flames 4-1 in the pre-season opener for both clubs at Pengrowth Saddledome.

Tom Gilbert and Shawn Horcoff each scored a goal for the Oilers, who finished last season with 85 points and were just six points out of the final playoff spot in the Western Conference. Jeff Drouin-Deslauriers stopped all 13 shots he faced, while Devan Dubnyk allowed a goal on 18 shots.

Jason Jaffray scored the lone goal for the Flames, who lost to the Blackhawks in the opening round of last season's playoffs. Leland Irving gave up one goal on 11 shots, while Matt Keetley was charged with two goals on 18 shots in the loss.

O'Sullivan scored a goal halfway through the first period and early in the second period.

Jaffray made it a one-goal halfway through the third, but Gilbert scored five minutes later to seal the win.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edmonton's Zach Stortini fights with Calgary's Brandon Prust last night during the Oilers' 4-1 victory over the Flames last night.

Pair of Stamps honoured with CFL weekly awards

FOOTBALL Calgary receiver Jeremaine Copeland is the CFL offensive player of the week after scoring a touchdown in the final minutes to lift the Stampeders to a win over Edmonton.

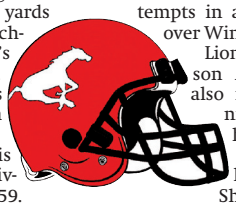
Copeland caught five receptions for 117 yards and two touchdowns in Friday's 35-34 win. Copeland leads the league in touchdowns with 11, and is second in receiving yards with 759.

Stamps quarterback Henry Burris was the runner-up for the honour.

Calgary lineman Jim Davis earned defensive honours after compiling four tackles, including three sacks and one forced fumble.

Saskatchewan linebacker Sean Lucas was also up for the award.

Roughriders kicker Luca Congi was named the special teams player of the week after converting all six of his field goal attempts in a 55-10 win over Winnipeg.



Lions safety Jason Arakgi was also in the running for the honour.

Montreal linebacker Shea Emry collected six tackles and a sack in a 28-24 win over B.C., to earn top Canadian honours.

Toronto linebacker Kevin Eiben and Calgary receiver Ryan Thelwell were runners-up.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

TRACK South Africa's minister for women and children has filed a complaint with the United Nations over how Caster Semenya's case was handled.

NHL Jonas Gustavsson's bid to land a goaltending job with the Toronto Maple Leafs has been stalled by a heart problem that required surgery yesterday.

FORMULA ONE Lotus is returning to Formula One racing. Yesterday, FIA, the sport's governing body, awarded Lotus the 13th spot on the grid for the 2010 season. Lotus has been out of F1 since 1994.

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Metro Workology exclusive: Skilled Trades
For the month of September, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the extremely lucrative and soon to be booming employment sector of skilled trades. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work every day.

Workology

$5M for skills training in B.C.

The B.C. government announced last Friday $5.2 million to help 1,000 unemployed residents of the province acquire the skills needed to return to the workforce or to further their education. The province is providing $1.5 million to a plethora of B.C. schools to offer 17 intakes across 10 programs to provide unemployed workers with general or job-specific skills. The remaining $3.2 million will fund a labour market consortium made up of 15 educational institutions. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Roofers and bricklayers protect your home from the elements.

While most people think of tools and materials when they think of renovations, it's the skilled tradespeople who put those materials to work that make the real magic happen.

The career professionals who master their chosen trade represent a culmination of experience and knowledge that can only be gained through dedication and hard work.

Bricklayer

Bricklayer and master mason Willi Rieder, 49, finished his career training at the British Columbia Institute of Technology and completed his apprenticeship when he was 23 years old. He started Alpine Masonry in Surrey, B.C., in 1990 and still lays brick on a daily basis because he likes to personally ensure a high quality level of work.

Like many trades, the masonry field is desperate for young blood to enter the fray but getting young people to start a career isn't easy. Rieder says many young people don't realize how much work and expertise goes into being a mason and as a result many give up before finishing their apprenticeships.

Roofer

Your roof protects your entire house as well as you within it, so suffice it to say professional roofers take their job very seriously.

Robert Bedard, 40, was a natural who learned his craft from a master roofer because no formal training program existed when he started. Today he has nearly 20 years of roofing under his belt and says the toughest part of being a roofer is handling the physicality of the job.

"You use every muscle in your body — the only thing that doesn't hurt at the end of the day is your head. You've definitely got to be in tip-top shape," Bedard said.

Bedard works for Great Canadian Roofing based in Edmonton and says creative thinking is a large part of the job as well, since every roof is different and figuring out how to work effectively around chimneys, windows and other additions takes some real smarts.

For more of the Skilled Trades exclusive series check Workology frequently or stop by: **metronews.ca/work**

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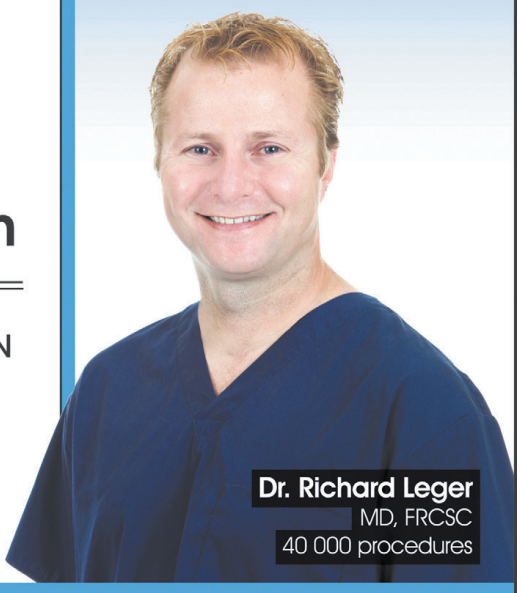
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VW's green rebate
Volkswagen Canada is offering an additional $1,000 on top of the federal government's Retire Your Ride recycling program to customers who choose the 2009 Jetta TDI Clean Diesel, named the Green Car Journal's 2009 Green Car of the Year. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Mercedes in style

Mercedes-Benz will be the official car for London Fashion Week, which kicks off tomorrow. The German automaker will provide a fleet of low CO2 emission, BlueEFFICIENCY cars to provide transport for VIPs, designers and celebrities between the catwalk shows. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Bang for your buck

Affordable quality drives Toyota Corolla's popularity

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

2010 Toyota Corolla CE

Type: Compact sedan
Price: Base, $16,169, as tested $19,335
Engine: 1.8-litre, four-cylinder, 16-valve DOHC
HP/Torque: 132 hp, 128 lb/ft

Highlights

- Affordable
- Compact car with space
- Good fuel economy

The built-in-Canada 2010 Toyota Corolla looks bigger than a compact car yet it gets up to about 5.7L/100km on the highway.

The interior of even the base car like this CE is tastefully turned out in a nice mix of materials and all fitted together like it was a Lexus.

Without the Corolla, Toyota might not be where it is today — Number One worldwide.

Since 1967, more than 1,125,061 Corolla's have been sold in Canada alone.

Now in its 10th generation, the Corolla is built in 16 plants around the world including here in Canada in Cambridge, Ont., where the 2010 model is rolling off the line. In fact, Cambridge is the second largest Corolla plant on the planet.

And Cambridge had a part of play in the design of this significant vehicle.

It might not sound like much, but Canadian input included making sure the footwell pedal spacing could accommodate winter boots and that the door pockets could hold a variety of sizes of ice scrapers.

This extended to making sure the same pockets could accommodate personal electronics like cellphones and the larger PDAs used in North America. And, lastly, the door cupholders had to be big enough to hold a Tim's or Slushie.

There are four models starting with the base CE, the mid-trim level S, the near-luxury equipped LE and the sporty XRS. All but the XRS get a 1.8-litre, DOHC inline four-cylinder producing 132 hp and 128 lb/ft of torque with a choice of a standard five-speed manual or optional four-speed automatic on the CE and S with the automatic standard on the LE.

Tested here is the CE with automatic transmission with a fuel consumption rating of 7.6L/100 km city and 5.7L/100 km highway which equates to 37 mpg in the city and 50 mpg on the highway. The manual is marginally better at 7.5/5.6L/100 km city/highway.

In common with most new cars there days, the 2010 Corolla is much bigger in flesh than it looks on websites or in brochures. With an overall length of 4,540 mm (178.7 in) and a wheelbase of 1,465 mm (102.4 in) the Corolla is well and truly pushing the outer limits as a "compact" car.

The CE tested here has a base price of $16,160, the four-speed automatic adding $1,000.

So what can you expect from a sub-$20,000 car?

Fuel economy was already mentioned but the engine itself is a marvel of technology with dual variable valve timing, fuel injection, direct ignition and even a fly-by-wire throttle system with intelligence. The latter looks at speed, fuel consumption and load and works out the best way to optimize power with efficiency while limiting emissions.

Even though this is a base car, it doesn't feel cheap. The cloth seats are comfy and supportive at the same time and large enough for ample-sized persons such as myself.

The three-spoke steering wheel has both telescope and tilt; pretty good for a sub-$20,000 car.

There is a difference between an inexpensive car and a cheap car and buyers known the difference.

It's not so much a secret of Toyota's success, but a core philosophy and why the Corolla remains so popular, not just here in Canada, but around the world.

Crosstour: Best of both worlds

The 2010 Honda Accord Crosstour

NEW MODEL The all-new 2010 Honda Accord Crosstour is set to arrive at Honda dealerships in Canada this fall. The Accord evolves the crossover utility vehicle (CUV) concept by integrating a sleek and aerodynamic shape that blends sporty, low-profile contours with versatile CUV functionality.

"Our concept is to broaden the appeal of the Accord line-up by leveraging traditional Accord strengths of fun-to-drive performance and handling, while also adapting to shifts in the Canadian light truck marketplace," said Jerry Chenkin, executive vice president of Honda Canada. "The all-new Accord Crosstour achieves this by offering a modern interpretation of a CUV, while integrating the refinement and efficiency of a premium sedan."

Derived from the Accord sedan, the Crosstour maximizes car-like ride and refinement, yet maintains capabilities consistent with a CUV's increased ride height and all-weather potential.

"SUV buyers like the comforts of an SUV and the commanding view of the road that comes with a high eye-point," said Chenkin. "The Accord Crosstour meets the needs of Canadian buyers looking for these attributes, while providing an image that is different from a conventional SUV."

Additional details and pricing will be announced later in the year.

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Ford on Leno show

Ford is teaming up with The Jay Leno Show, which kicked off on NBC Monday, and providing an all-new battery electric Ford Focus that celebrities will be able to drive. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Northern hope

AutoPilot

General Motors agreed last week to sell its Opel division to Canada's auto parts giant Magna.

When the deal concludes next month (barring any last minute hitches), it will end one of longest droughts in Canadian history. No, not as long as the Toronto Maple Leaf drought, but still long by any other standard…

The last time an automaker was Canadian owned?

Well you have to go back to those lovely disco years, in the mid-1970s, when American Malcolm Bricklin set up shop in Saint John, N.B., with millions of the province's dollars, to build his mid-engine sports car.

Numerous pseudo-Canadian car companies have dotted our landscape in the decades between 1930 and 1970. But if you're looking for a totally Canadian car company with any substance and some name recognition, you have to go all the way back to McLaughlin, which was sold to GM in 1918.

That's why this Magna deal is such big news. Great news even.

The basic deal looks like this: Magna and the Russian bank, Sherbank, equally split a 55 per cent of share of Opel (27.5 per cent each). GM retains a 35 percent share. The remaining 10 per cent is held by trade unions.

This "new" company can make and sell cars under the Opel name — except in the U.S. and China.

The German government will loan this group many millions of marks for restructuring. As such, it will be hard politically for the "new Opel" to rationalize operations in the EU.

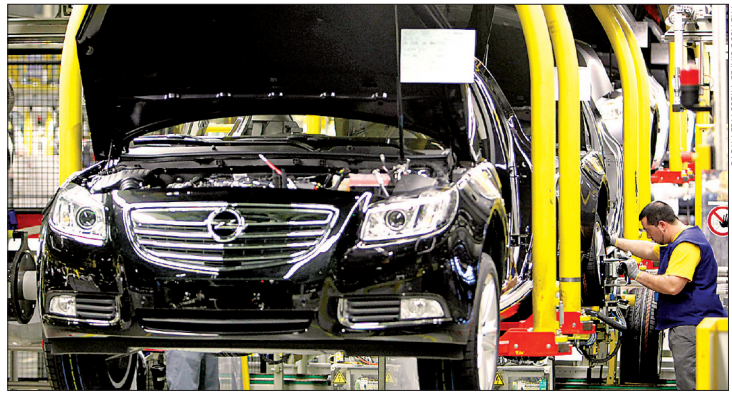
The key to its success then, appears to lie in Russia, where low-cost production and a burgeoning middle class beckon. GM has already noted that Sherbank is just holding a place for Russian automaker GAZ, which needs a few months to get its act together to get in on this deal.

Is that a global deal or what?

But I think the most intriguing aspect of it, for Canadians at least, is that this new entity can make and sell cars under the Opel name in Canada starting in the third quarter of 2012.

It's definitely a bummer that such cars couldn't be sold in the U.S., a close and lucrative market if there ever was one.

But Magna chief Frank Stronach is a smart man. He came to Canada as young man with just $200 to his name, and built one of the largest manufacturing companies in the world. I'm guessing he's got something figured out.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

An employee works at the assembly line for the Insignia in the Opel car factory in Ruesselsheim, Germany. Magna is all set to acquire a 27.5 per cent stake in GM's Opel division.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

Once upon a time in Canada ...

- **McLaughlin Motor Car:** Easily the most storied Canadian automaker to date. Founded in 1987. Purchased by GM in 1918, to form the foundation of GM Canada.
- **General Vehicle Corp:** Sucked a lot of money from the province of New Brunswick between 1974 and 1975. But its Bricklin SV-1 was definitely unique, with gullwing doors, fibreglass body panels, and a mid-engine design.
- **Les Automobiles Manic:** The Manic GT is the most interesting Canadian car you never heard of. About 160 of the rear-engine coupes were built between 1970-71 at the firm's plant in Granby, Que.
- **Brooks Steam Motors:** Just when others were getting out of steam propulsion, Brooks was getting in, setting up a factory in Stratford, Ont., in 1923. Less than 200 of the stately vehicles were produced before the company's inevitable collapse in 1929.
- **Galt Motor Company:** Actually produced a gas-electric hybrid in 1914. A two-cylinder engine powered a turbine, which fed electricity to a motor that powered the vehicle.

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Fiesta: Who's better, who's best

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

Ford has been teasing the upcoming launch of its new B-segment car, the Fiesta, for what seems like years now. We've seen its fantastic styling, heard its revvy engine, and ached for more. But Ford is being smart. Previous attempts at a "World Car" — a vehicle that's sold virtually the same around the globe — haven't been well received in North America. Remember the Ford Contour? Or the Mercury Scorpio? Disastrous.

So to whet our appetites even more, Ford set up a day's drive with the five-door European Fiesta — a vehicle that will share 90 per cent of its components with "our" Fiesta — against its deadliest rivals: the Honda Fit, Nissan Versa and Toyota Yaris.

Ford's first challenge of the day was a slalom course set up at Ontario Place in Toronto to let us put the Fiesta through its paces in a straight fight with the Honda, Nissan and Toyota.

On paper, the Fiesta trails in some categories, including number of gears (five vs. six for Nissan) and horsepower (116-hp vs. 117 for Honda, 122 for Nissan). But the Fiesta's fuel mileage trumps them all. The current Yaris is the economy king, with a combined 6.6 L/100 km rating, but the Ford's 5.9 L/100 km takes it to another level.

At the handling course, only the Fit had anything on the Fiesta. Ford has a reputation in Europe for great driving machines, and it's obvious why. Excellent steering feel, taut suspension, great brakes and few vibrations equal a fluid package. You can throw the Fiesta around by its scruff, and it's happy to oblige. The Honda has similar handling, but rides rougher.

Both the Toyota and Nissan don't like being pushed around, but might be better suited to the daily highway grind.

The Fiesta's other trump card is its ability to adjust itself to best match the driver. Its seats have the widest range of adjustment, and the steering wheel felt like it could be positioned in the backseat if required.

In the Toyota, tall drivers will have a hard time finding a comfortable position, and the Fisher Price cabin materials are insulting. Same in the Versa, although it does offer acres of passenger room. The Honda doesn't feel like a penalty box, and trumps the Fiesta with its flip-and-fold Magic Seats in the rear. The Fiesta's split-fold seats don't quite fold flat enough, and its 295L cargo capacity with the seats raised is lowest in the group, and almost twice as small as the leading Fit at 585L.

November debut

- Ford says 'our' Fiesta will debut this November at the Los Angeles International Auto Show, in both four-door sedan and five-door hatch.

MARK ATKINSON/FOR METRO CANADA

Ford recently put its upcoming Fiesta to a test against its deadliest rivals: the Honda Fit, Nissan Versa and Toyota Yaris.

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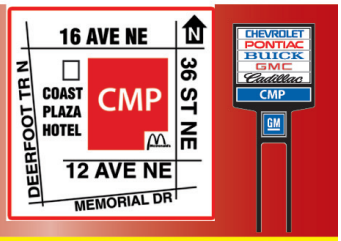

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COURTESY LEXUS CANADA

A second-generation Lexus LX.

MODEL: Lexus LX, 1998-2007

VEHICLE TYPE: Large luxury SUV

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: This machine featured a rugged four wheel drive system, V8 power and an automatic transmission as standard. With a low-range transfer case, generous ground clearance and a truck-frame construction, LX was capable of tackling trails or towing as needed. This big, heavy and powerful machine is thirsty, so shoppers should determine if the LX is overkill for their needs ahead of shopping.

Second Gear

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Owners commonly report loving the space, capability and high-end build quality of the LX. Confident operation in any weather make it a favorite amongst families active with year-round activities, and the stereo system is commonly referred to as "awesome."

WHAT OWNERS HATE: As with most SUV models of this size, most common owner-reported issues deal with hefty fuel consumption. Some report a vague and disconnected feel at highway speeds, too.

COMMON ISSUES: The LX's hydraulically-adjustable suspension system employs numerous pumps, sensors and switches to alter ride characteristics. If the rear-end of the LX is sitting abnormally high, it indicates a failure within the system. This well documented problem may result from a failed sensor, and could result in a pricey repair bill. Ensure proper, smooth and noise-free operation from the sunroof, and be sure to check for proper operation of the air conditioner, too.

THE VERDICT: Lexus has earned a loyal following for building luxurious, reliable machines. If no major issues present themselves, a well-maintained LX should offer confident operation for many years to come.

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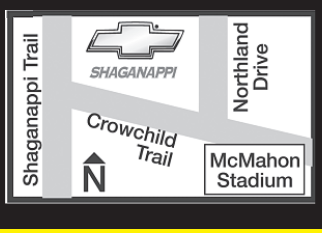

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Car Insurance Roadblock

Consumers concerned insurers don't want drivers with tickets or accidents

Worried Your Spotted Driving Record Means You've Got Nowhere To Turn For Car Insurance?

Don't be. While it's true that, all things being equal, your tickets and accidents make you a more expensive risk to insure than a similar car and driver with a clean driving record, that doesn't mean you should have trouble finding insurance – assuming you know where to look. Different insurance companies target different types of business and this is reflected in things like their claims service, marketing efforts, discounts, and most importantly for you, their rates.

Should I Just Accept That I'll Have To Pay A Bundle?

No. Sadly, this is a mistake many drivers make and it can be a costly one, especially if they don't bother to shop around for the lowest rate available. The key to finding the best rate, especially if you have tickets or accidents on your driving record, is to figure out which insurance company of the more than 20 in Alberta has the best rate for your particular situation. And with rates varying so wildly across companies, chances are you are not with the company that has the lowest rate for your profile right now.

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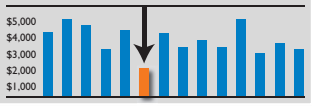

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EV galore in Frankfurt

EMMA E FORREST
for Metro Canada

French car manufacturer Peugeot revealed its entry into the great race to offer the hottest electric city car, when it showed the Peugeot iOn at the annual Frankfurt motor show, which began yesterday with press showings.

The iOn, which has a range of 128 km, a top speed of 128 km/h and takes six hours to charge, will go on sale a the end of 2010 — with an estimated 25,000 cars being sold each year.

The Peugeot is based on my favourite city EV, the fantastic four-door Mitsubishi i-MiEV, which confounds all golf-cart EV clichés, as it looks very cool, offers plenty of room, and has the safety standards and drives like a regular car.

The MiEV went on sale in Japan this year and is set to roll out across Europe this year. The iMiev is currently being tested in the U.S. for a North American launch. Mitsubishi has really caught the EV bug — it plans to launch no less than five by 2013.

Meanwhile other carmakers are testing or leasing out their own electric cars, including the Nissan LEAF, Smart EV and the MINI EV. The latter two are already on the road after they proved even more popular than expected, with drivers queuing up to lease them even at great expense.

There are more electric "reveals" at the show, particularly from Renault, which will be showing four new EV concepts. REVA, maker of the popular G-Wiz city car — there are more than 3,000 of them on the road already. There's the REVA four-seat NXR hatchback family car that will be sold start of next year, as well as a sporty two-seater due for sale in 2011.

Both models will feature "REVive," a technology that serves as a sort of emergency reserve fuel tank, allowing the car to be remotely recharged (revaglobal.com).

Meanwhile, Indian carmaker Tata has announced plans to build electric cars as soon as possible, with a facility to be built in Europe.

The Peugeot iOn was among the many electric vehicles showcased at the ongoing Frankfurt auto show.

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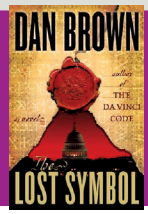
Falling room rates

The Canadian Hotel Price Index by hotels.ca shows Whistler, B.C. had the nation's steepest decline in room rates during the first half of 2009 followed by Jasper, Alta. and Collingwood, Ont. But all three are still among Canada's 10 priciest destinations, with room rates averaging between $173 and $182 per night. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Dan Brown's D.C.

Destination D.C. has launched washington.org/lostsymbol to help fans of Dan Brown's new thriller, The Lost Symbol, explore places and themes featured in the book. The guide includes an early 20th century Masonic stone temple at the corner of 16th and S streets, and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Va. Fans of The Da Vinci Code novelist flocked to the Louvre in Paris and other sites in Europe that were featured in that book. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dual-destination honeymoons

Choose places where you can relax for a week, then go exploring

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

Left, a romantic beach resort on Reunion Island, a French outpost in the Indian Ocean. Right, a dramatic view of a waterfall on Reunion Island.

Going on a honeymoon presents you with a dilemma: This is the one chance you get to really splash out on the holiday of a lifetime, so you want to take advantage of it and do something exceptional.

On the other hand, after dealing with a year of planning the nuptials, worrying about how much it will all cost you, bickering with your partner over wedding venues, arguing over the guest list with your future in-laws, managing pre-wedding nerves, then rushing around on the day trying to talk to everyone you've invited, you might not have the energy to do anything too exciting on your honeymoon.

The chances are, you will be absolutely exhausted the day after the big day — there's a reason why the honeymoon cliché involves spending two weeks passed out on a paradise beach.

You'll probably need to relax and gaze lovingly into your new bride/groom's eyes for at least five days, but after that you'll likely be ready to explore somewhere exciting or astoundingly beautiful with your soulmate.

The key is to choose destinations where you can do both — get inspiration from our guide to two-centre honeymoon options.

Mauritius and Reunion

Relax in Mauritius

The Indian Ocean island of Mauritius is the classic honeymoon destination, with palm trees swaying over long stretches of pure white sand. The hotels here are geared up for honeymooners, so you'll be well looked after. Stay all-inclusive and you can chill out in comfort for the first part of your honeymoon, sipping cocktails on the beach, and eating in-house before getting an early night.

Enjoy wilderness on Reunion Island

There are plenty of interesting natural and historical sites to explore on the island of Mauritius, but if you are looking for true adventure, take a flight over to the nearby French island of Reunion.

France's outpost in the Indian Ocean is home to a live volcano and three huge dramatic craters or cirques. Plan a trek into Cirque Mafate, which is only accessible by foot, or cruise through the lush, green, wild valleys of Cirque de Salazie or Cilaos and stop off to admire gushing waterfalls or pretty colonial villages, or take a trek through the stunning scenery. Elsewhere you can visit Creole towns and geranium or vanilla plantations, or go snorkelling or whale-spotting on the coast.

Miami and Key West

Relax in the Florida Keys

This special strip of tiny islands offers the warm welcome and a laidback spirit of the American South, as well as the azure waters, tropical landscapes, breathtaking sunsets and party atmosphere of the Caribbean.

This is a great place to find an affordable, easygoing haven for your honeymoon, and enjoy relaxing activities ranging from a relaxed Hemingway-style fishing trip, a visit to the unique town of Key West, a cycling tour, dolphin spotting or taking in one of the Keys' annual food festivals.

Waterbabies can learn to scuba dive or explore the Florida Keys Shipwreck Heritage Trail in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. This line of nine wreck sites stretching from Key Largo to Key West has produced artificial reefs that are rich with marine life, and are suitable for both snorkelling and diving.

Party and shop in Miami

When you're done with relaxing in the Keys, step up the pace with a visit to Miami's South Beach strip where you can soak up the party atmosphere.

Tour the famous Art Deco buildings along Ocean Drive and Washington Avenue one day, then hit the shops for fashion bargains the next, or spend the day people-watching on the beach or in a pavement café.

By night you can sip cocktails in one of the gorgeous designer hotels — try the Gansevoort for the glamorous rooftop bar, or hit the terrace at the Mondrian on the west coast for the best sunsets.

Mozambique and South Africa

Relax in Mozambique

Traditionally, honeymooners used to stop off for a week on the romantic Indian Ocean island of Zanzibar before going on an exciting safari trip in South Africa. Nowadays savvy travellers are discovering the charms of Mozambique instead.

Read more on page 20 ››

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Record number
Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park hosted a record number of visitors this summer and remains on track for its busiest year ever. Officials said nearly 2.3 million people visited in June, July and August, up about five per cent from the previous summer high set in 1999. See nps.gov/yell. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harry Potter and the Orlando theme park

Wizarding World area at Universal will include rides, shops and eateries

It sounds like a new book in the Harry Potter series, but Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey will be a high-tech ride and the marquee attraction at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, a new theme park area opening in spring 2010 at Florida's Universal Orlando Resort.

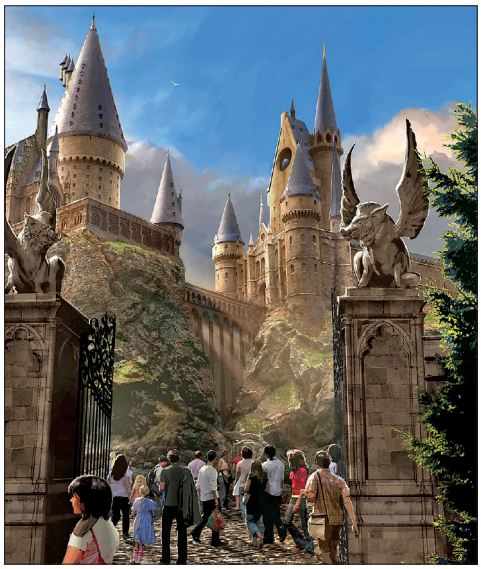
The Forbidden Journey ride was named by author J.K. Rowling and described yesterday by Universal officials in a webcast revealing details of what the Potter park will look like.

The ride will takes guests through scenes and rooms from the blockbuster movies inside a richly detailed remake of Hogwarts Castle made to look more than 200 metres tall. Hogwarts is where Harry attends a boarding school for witches and wizards.

Guests will enter the Wizarding World through a station archway named for Hogsmeade, the magical village near Hogwarts. A plume of steam and a train whistle will sound the arrival of the Hogwarts Express. The goal is to make the experience immersive, so nothing outside is visible after guests pass the Hogsmeade station archway.

Rowling, known for carefully guarding the Potter franchise, hasn't yet journeyed to Orlando, but the design team has made several trips to London to consult with her.

Other rides include the Dragon Challenge, a twin high-speed roller coaster themed after the Triwizard Tournament and the family roller coaster Flight of the Hippogriff, named for a creature with an eagle's head and a horse's body.



UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

In this artist illustration provided by Universal Studios, Hogwarts Castle is seen as part of the The Wizarding World of Harry Potter area, to launch at Universal Orlando in spring 2010.

"Along those journeys they're going to be swept up into the greatest parts of the movies and the books. We've pushed every technology available to us to give guests a theme park experience unlike any they've had before," said Paul Daurio, producer of the Potter area.

The Harry Potter park will be part of Universal's Islands of Adventure.

Art and set directors from the films, including Oscar-winning production designer Stuart Craig and art director Alan Gilmore, were hired to translate the movies into the park.

Every shop and eatery is Potter-themed. Honeydukes sells chocolate frogs and Bertie Bott's Every-Flavour Beans, Ollivander's peddles magic wands, Zonko's joke shop has Sneakoscopes, and the British restaurant Three Broomsticks pours Butterbeer.

At The Owl Post, guests can send letters with a certified Hogsmeade postmark. Magical instruments and equipment are available at Dervish and Banges, including everything needed to play Quidditch — a game like soccer played on flying broomsticks.

"The interesting thing about Harry Potter is that the stories are so rich in themselves, so deep," said Universal Creative President Mark Woodbury. "There wasn't so much difficulty (in) creating the look, it was, 'How do you execute at a level of authenticity that is unquestionable?'"

"We've pushed every technology available to us to give guests a theme park experience unlike any they've had before." Paul Daurio

There could even be new footage of Potter stars shot on actual sets from Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix and Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. A Universal spokesman declined comment on the issue, but the company was explicitly granted those privileges in its 2007 licensing agreement with Warner Bros. Consumer Products Inc., according to the contract filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Potter area will be Universal's third big-ticket addition in three years. SEC filings from the company estimate the combined cost of The Simpsons Ride, Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit and Wizarding World at between $275 million and $310 million US. Simultaneously, the resort owned jointly by NBC Universal and private equity company The Blackstone Group finds itself on shaky financial footing. If it cannot find refinancing, $1 billion in long-term debt may be maturing as soon as April, the firm said in SEC filings.

The Potter park is sure to prove popular not just with American fans but also with visitors from the United Kingdom, Potter's home and the largest source of international tourism to Orlando, with about one million arrivals a year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Odd Wisconsin

An original script from the movie Casablanca, a journal from the Lewis and Clark Expedition and one of the world's first atlases are among the new items at the Wisconsin Historical Museum's exhibit of odd items in Madison, Wisc. For details, see wisconsinhistory.org/museum. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The best iPhone travel apps

TECHNOLOGY There are now more than 50,000 applications related to travel available for the Apple iPhone. Here are a few of the travel apps recommended by National Geographic Traveler magazine's September issue as being among the best:

• Flight Track, offers real-time flight updates, delays and cancellations, while Next Flight helps you find options if you miss your plane.

• The Maps app, which is free, can be enabled to show traffic with green, yellow or red highways, depending on how many cars are on the road.

• Cheap Gas, a free app, gives you nearby stations and fuel prices.

• Trapster, also free, identifies speed cameras and known speed trap zones.

• Rest Area gives you a list of highway rest stops organized by how near they are to your location.

• Urbanspoon, which is free, queries a database to find nearby dining options.

• Currency, a free app, converts money between more than 90 currencies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Above, photos of the romantic Kirkman's Camp in the Sabi Sands reserve in South Africa.

Planning two-centred honeymoons

>> Continued from page 18

This former Portuguese colony offers world-class diving, white beaches and swaying palms, deserted islands and remote spots in which to chill out.

Transportation links and infrastructure are better in the southern part, which is a playground for weekenders from Johannesburg; and the northern stretch of coast is for the more adventurous, with its wide open spaces and remote luxury lodges.

Have a safari adventure in South Africa

Thanks to the weak South African rand, your holiday money will go a long way in South Africa, so you'll be able to splash out on a luxurious safari trip. The involves dawn-starts and full days of chasing round and tracking down lions, giraffes, hyenas, cheetahs and elephants and friends, interspersed with some serious eating.

You'll probably be all safaried-out after two to three days of game-spotting, so you can invest in an unforgettable experience.

And Beyond is the biggest and best safari operator in Africa — not only do their safari camps offer impeccable service and unforgettable locations, they are also active in conservation, not only of the wildlife but of local communities near their reserves, so you'll be doing good when you invest in their holidays.

A romantic choice is Kirkman's Camp, in the Sabi Sands private reserve. Adjacent to Kruger, you'll enjoy the benefits of the wildlife that runs between the two but without the crowds.

You'll also love staying here; the stunning old colonial hunting lodge gives you a real sense of history, and the guest chalets open straight onto the bush, so you can watch as an elephant strips a tree just outside your window or naughty monkeys run riot on your terrace; for more information, visit andbeyond.com.

Good to know

• When planning, bear in mind that if you take two weeks off work, and get married on the first weekend, you won't get two full weeks of honeymoon.

• Even if you are an adventurous traveller, be sure to book the first few days' hotel rooms – you won't have the energy to traipse around looking for somewhere to stay when you've arrived.

• If you need to budget, plan carefully. Go off-season when hotel rates are cheaper, or you will be able to negotiate a cheaper rate at your dream hotel. Get a cheap flight but don't scrimp on accommodations — you're likely to want to spend a lot of time in your room, and you don't want to argue with your partner if the hotel turns out to be a nightmare.

• Remember to say you're on honeymoon when you book your hotel rooms, for free upgrades, candlelit dinners and complimentary champagne.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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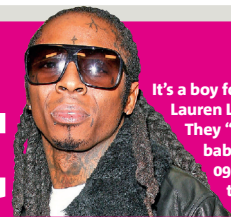
Baby on the way
Colin Farrell and girlfriend Alicja Bachleda are expecting a baby, and the actor couldn't be happier about it. "Yeah, I'm going to be a father again," Farrell told People magazine. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment



Lil one

It's a boy for rapper Lil Wayne and Lauren London, E! Online reports. They "welcomed their healthy baby boy into the world on 09-09-09," London's rep said this week. POPEATER.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

'I was so terrified'

Lynskey hits big time with roles opposite Clooney, Damon

CLAUDETTE BARIUS PHOTOS

Melanie Lynskey, right, ties the knot with Danny McBride in Up in the Air; Lynskey stars alongside Matt Damon in the Steven Soderbergh film The Informant.

The Informant opens in theatres on Friday

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Melanie Lynskey may not be someone whose name you instantly recognize, but there's a good chance that's about to change.

The actress is currently promoting three upcoming films, including Leaves Of Grass, Up In The Air, and The Informant. The unassuming and charming New Zealand native got her start as a teenager with a difficult lead role in Peter Jackson's award-winning Heavenly Creatures and has been working steadily ever since.

"I always wanted to be an actor, but I'm from a small town in New Zealand, so I didn't know anyone who'd ever become one and it didn't seem possible," Lynskey told Metro.

"But (Peter Jackson) came around to my high school when I was 15 and was looking for normal girls to play the role. It's more than I ever hoped for that could actually make it my career, because it was my dream ever since I was a child."

Last year was a big one for Lynskey as she got to work with some pretty impressive directors including Sam Mendes, Jason Reitman, Steven Soderbergh, and Tim Blake Nelson.

Though Lynskey was pleased with the collaborations with her directors, she did notice the difference in their working styles.

"There was a lot of rehearsal and discussion with Tim on Leaves Of Grass, but then Steven Soderbergh was totally hands off and didn't give a lot of notes," Lynskey said. "He's happy with whatever spontaneous thing that happens on set because he likes the performances to be very natural."

As for Juno and Up In The Air director Jason Reitman, Lynskey noted that the young filmmaker was just as professional as the veterans.

Lynskey also got to work alongside some megastar actors including George Clooney on Up In The Air and Matt Damon on The Informant.

"I was so terrified," revealed Lynskey. "I'm not the kind of actress who plays Matt Damon's wife. I'm normally the best friend. Luckily he's the nicest person ever to walk the face of the earth and a very generous actor. He made me feel very comfortable right away."

Lynskey has made over 30 appearances in film and television over the last 15 years, but seems to have found a comfortable home now in comedy and should only continue to gain ground in Hollywood after this string of high profile performances.

"It's funny because I remember at the wrap party for Heavenly Creatures, someone said to me 'you should really do comedy.' At the time I thought 'Thanks a lot. You've just been working on a dramatic movie with me for three months.'"

In brief

TV A giraffe that starred in a series of TV commercials for Toys R Us and appeared in Jim Carrey's movie Ace Ventura: Pet Detective has died at a Boston zoo. Tweet the giraffe died Friday at the Franklin Park Zoo where producers are filming the Kevin James movie The Zookeeper.

MOVIES Keanu Reeves spent last weekend scouting locations for a new film. His visit included tours of two jail facilities that are the target of a U.S. Justice Department lawsuit accusing the Erie County Sheriff's Department of civil rights violations.

TV The Emmy Awards are about to open a whole new set of degrees for the Kevin Bacon game. Bacon and his wife, Kyra Sedgwick, are slated to present together at Sunday's ceremony. The Footloose actor is nominated for lead actor in a miniseries or movie for HBO's Taking Chance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's Style
Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
9/16/09 primetime	267	351 - ACCESS	Alberta Primetime (Live)		The Beautiful Life: TBL		America's Got Talent Winner is revealed; Susan Boyle.				Primetime
	243	317 3 CFCN	etalk	Dance	America's Next Top Model (N)		CSI: NY "Pay Up"		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CTV News
	-	- 4 OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		The Simpsons	King	Metropia
	-	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Wipeout (HDTV) (N)		(10:02) Crash Course		Primetime
	245	306 6 CBRT	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Spellers (N)		The Tudors (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338 7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	Melrose Place (N)		Bones (N)		Glee "Acafellas" (N)		News Hour
	246	- 8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		The Jay Leno Show (N)		More to Love Luke proposes to one woman. (N)				Your City
	119	705 9 CBXFT	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Moment de vérité (SC)		Hauts		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Alberta
	-	- 10 SHAW	(6) Local Programming						Local Programming		
	-	372 12 KREM	News	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY
	-	374 14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		The Big Band Years				Live From Lincoln Center (N)		
	502	390 15 CBC	CBC News: The National		The World of Haute Couture		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Haute Couture
	-	370 16 KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	America's Got Talent Winner is revealed; Susan Boyle.				Jay Leno Show
	-	373 22 KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance		Glee "Acafellas" (N)		News
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news	500	500 29 CNN	Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	508	502 31 CNN2	Jane Velez-Mitchell		Nancy Grace		Showbiz Tonight		Jane Velez-Mitchell		Nancy Grace
sports	400	400 21 TSN	MLB Baseball		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Off the Record	50 Greatest Pool Trickshots		
	408	418 27 net	(6) UFC Fight Night		Sportsnet Connected		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected		UEFA Soccer
	410	403 30 SCORE	(5) RaceNight		WWE Vintage Collection		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now
	411	457 44 OLN	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters
	417	406 48 SPEED	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pass Time
family	552	543 20 YTV	iCarly	iCarly	Drake & Josh	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
	557	541 39 FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School
	555	545 67 TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
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	553	546 17 TREE	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Babar	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Go, Diego, Go!
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	602	568 23 W	House-Sell	Style by Jury	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Yourself Sexy	10 Years
	521	560 24 TLC	Truth Be Told (HDTV) (N)		Toddlers & Tiaras (N)		I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant		Truth Be Told (HDTV)		Toddler-Tiara
	603	561 25 FOOD	Iron Chef America		Chopped "High Hopes"		Chef School	Chef School	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Chopped
	615	520 26 A&E	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Criss Angel Mindfreak		Criss Angel Mindfreak		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter
	617	522 32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		The Guard (HDTV)		Found.	Paradise Falls	Bones
	601	562 33 SLICE	Nearly Dead	Newlywed	In Laws	In Laws	ET Canada	What Happen?	Biggest Loser Australia		Average Joe:
	-	633 34 ENC2	(7:05) *The Boxer* ★★ (1997, Drama) Daniel Day-Lewis.				*In the Name of the Father* ★★★ (1993, Docudrama)				*My-Laundrette*
	520	505 35 DISC	Mighty Ships		Mayday		Daily Planet		Mayday		Pitchmen
	620	523 36 BRAVO	Wingfield	Star Portraits	Thompson: My Pyramids		Law & Order		Without a Trace		*Smash-Up Stry*
	294	650 40 WPCH	MLB Baseball: Mets at Braves		Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Steve Harvey	*The Long Kiss Goodnight* (1996, Action)		
	626	547 41 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeremy Hotz
	-	539 42 TCM	(6) *Passage to Marseille*		*Sealed Cargo* ★★★ (1951, Suspense)		(9:45) *Juarez* ★★★ (1939, Biography) Paul Muni.				
	628	584 43 SPIKE	(6) UFC Fight Night (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Surviving Disaster "Hijack"		(10:03) The Ultimate Fighter		Surviving
	522	516 45 HIST	Outlaw Bikers (HDTV)		Expedition Africa (N)		Life After People "Outbreak"		Ice Road Truckers		Exped. Africa
	627	528 46 SPACE	Torchwood		Supernatural (N)		InnerSpace (N)	Stargate SG-1 (DVS)		Star Trek: Next Gener.	
	-	- 47 AMC	(6) *The Octagon* (1980, Adventure)			*The Game* ★★★ (1997, Suspense) (HDTV) Michael Douglas, Sean Penn.					
cable variety	619	525 49 TROP	Project Runway Canada		King	King	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy
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	501	391 52 CTV	CTV News Tonight		News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News
	504	508 70 BNN	Squeeze Play		Business News	Commodities	Market Call Tonight		Headline	Commodities	Squeeze Play
	526	507 92 VIVA	The Closer		Da Vinci's Inquest		Mediums	Encounters	Judging Amy		Missing
	269	350 93 APTN	APTN InFocus	Reel Insights Jim Settee.		Wings-Canada	Canadian Geographic		Chiefs "Sitting Bull"		Storytellers
	-	- 94 MCP	World News	News	Banquet	Kingdom-Wind	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical
	571	581 100 MMM	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons
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critics' corner

Judith Thompson: My Pyramids
News and documentary footage, combined with performance clips, paint a portrait of playwright Judith Thompson with a focus on one of her most powerful works. "My Pyramids" tells the story of Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison — where inmates were degraded and abused at the hands of U.S. troops — through the eyes of a fictional female soldier. 8 PM on BRAVO

Supernatural
As a new season begins, Sam, Dean and Bobby (Jared Padalecki, Jensen Ackles, Jim Beaver) deal with the aftermath of the devil (guest star Mark Pellegrino) rising from hell. Chuck (guest star Rob Benedict) has stunning news for the brothers about the fate of Castiel (Misha Collins). Rachel Miner returns as Meg in the new episode "Sympathy for the Devil." 8 PM on SPACE

Hef explains long separation

Hugh Hefner says he delayed his divorce from Kimberly Conrad Hefner, from whom he's been separated for 11 years, until now for the sake of their children, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Their youngest son, Cooper, turned 18 this month. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

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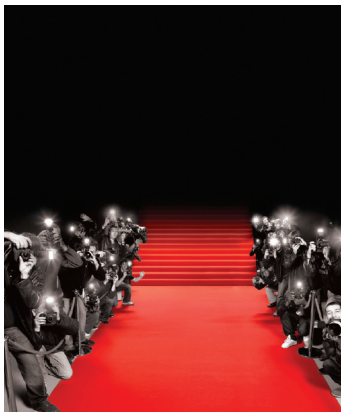

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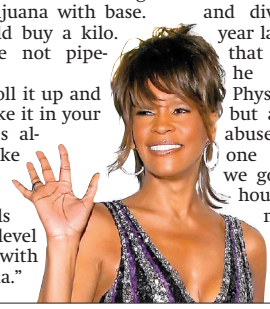
Whitney details drug abuse

SHOCKING PAST Whitney Houston detailed the extent of her substance abuse and her 14-year marriage to singer Bobby Brown during an interview with Oprah Winfrey, which aired on Tuesday, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Referring to her drug use, Houston, 46, said: "I didn't think about the singing part anymore. I'd totally forgotten about that life. I had so much money by that time."

She described her drug habits: "We were lacing our marijuana with base. We would buy a kilo. We were not pipe-smoking.

"You roll it up and you smoke it in your weed. It's almost like heroin cocaine speedballs but you level it off with marijuana."



Houston — who separated from Brown in 2006 and divorced him a year later — claimed that "emotionally he was abusive. Physically, no way," but added Brown's abuse spilled over one night: "When we got back to the house he spit on me. He actually spit on me."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Chris pines for Rihanna?

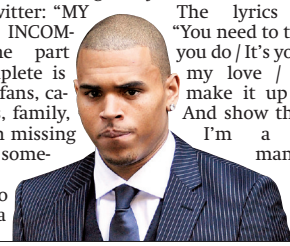
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE? Chris Brown has publicly pleaded for Rihanna to give him another chance, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 20-year-old singer wrote on Twitter: "MY HEART IS INCOMPLETE... the part that is complete is my love for fans, career, friends, family, God. But I'm missing someone or something (sic)."

He also posted a YouTube video of his new song Changed Man, which features pictures of him and Rihanna together.

Brown added: "Sorry all, just one of those days."

The lyrics include: "You need to trust what you do / It's you and me my love / But Ima make it up to you / And show the world / I'm a changed man."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Even celebs have cards declined

NEEDS A RAISE The Hills star Stephanie Pratt had her credit card declined when she tried to buy a bottle of champagne at an MTV after-party, according to Page Six.

"The waitress wouldn't give her card back until she paid," a source said. Pratt was later spotted "hysterically crying," another source said. METRO WORLD NEWS

A presidential view on Kanye's outburst

WEST VS. THE WORLD Everyone is weighing in on Kanye West's interruption of Taylor Swift at the MTV Video Music Awards — even Barack Obama.

The U.S. president was asked about the incident during a press event, and he allegedly told a CNBC reporter he thought West behaved liked a "jackass."

An ABC News reporter quickly posted Obama's joking remarks on his Twitter account, but the post was later taken down because the president's alleged quip was made off-the-record.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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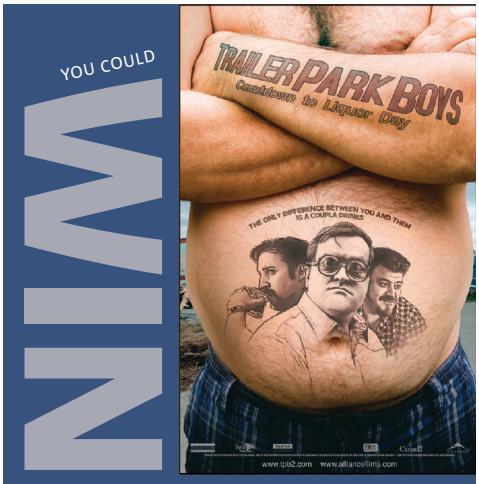

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SURROGATES
IN THEATRES SEPTEMBER 25
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No purchase necessary. Enter daily for more chances to win. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes September 18, 2009 at 11:59pm. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details, visit www.metronews.ca

Today Sunny 30 C / 9 C
Thursday Light showers 25 C / 10 C
Friday Sunny 25 C / 8 C

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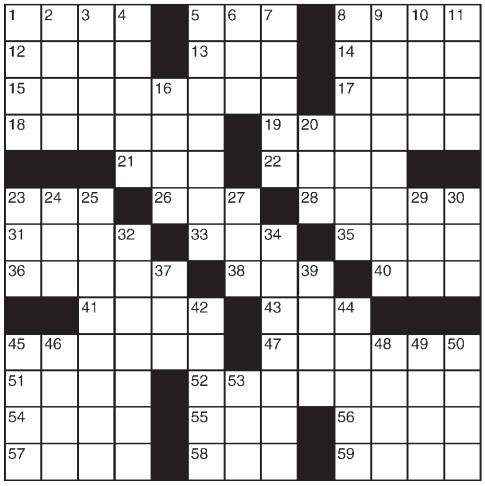

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		7	4		3		8	
3		8	9	6		4		
	5						3	6
8			5		6		4	7
	4			2			9	
6	1		7		4			8
9	7						6	
		1		7	9	3		4
	3		1		2	8		

ACROSS

1 Guy
5 Society newbie
8 Buckle
12 Alkali neutralizer
13 Eggs
14 October stone
15 Behave ostentatiously
17 Doing
18 Elder
19 Formed into a heap
21 — de plume
22 Icelandic volume
23 Where "Lost" is found
26 Chart
28 Is tangent to
31 Snatch
33 Run-down horse
35 Birthright barterer
36 Like some seals
38 Upper surface
40 Recede
41 Probability
43 Tease
45 July holiday
47 Slanted lettering
51 As well
52 Sooners' home
54 Bobbin
55 Slithery fish
56 Skiers' carrier
57 Gangster's girlfriend
58 "CSI" evidence
59 A handful

DOWN

1 Part of "E = mc2"
2 Rue the run
3 Narnia's Aslan, e.g.
4 Newsman Newman
5 His is an entry-level job
6 Actress Mendes
7 Wash
8 Potential
9 Clapping
10 Assessment
11 Trudge along
16 Explosive sound
20 Greek mountain
23 Mellow
24 Type of lingerie
25 Baggage-claim structure
27 Vanna's cohort
29 Bill
30 Hero sandwich
32 Sleeping bag, maybe
34 Ape
37 Pesticide letters
39 Pocket bread
42 Furnished with footwear
44 Thai money
45 Locale for 4-H'ers
46 Margarine
48 Timber wolf
49 Mosque bigwig
50 Give a darn
53 Barbie's companion

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

M	A	S	T		B	A	G		F	A	N	S		
E	C	H	O		A	B	A		A	L	E	E		
S	H	O	R	T	C	U	T		T	B	A	R		
A	Y	E		R	O	T		S	C	A	R	F		
			T	I	N		R	A	H					
I	D	A	H	O		T	H	W	A	R	T	S		
D	E	M	I		F	O	O		N	O	A	H		
S	W	I	N	D	L	E		S	C	E	N	E		
			M	A	Y		F	O	E					
S	C	R	I	M		L	E	I		F	C	C		
I	R	O	N		T	A	L	L	T	A	L	E		
D	O	L	T		O	N	O		O	V	E	N		
E	W	E	S		T	E	N		W	E	F	T		

2	9	7	5	1	8	3	4	6
3	5	1	9	6	4	7	2	8
6	8	4	2	7	3	1	5	9
8	3	2	6	4	9	5	7	1
1	6	9	7	2	5	8	3	4
4	7	5	3	8	1	6	9	2
9	1	8	4	5	7	2	6	3
7	4	6	8	3	2	9	1	5
5	2	3	1	9	6	4	8	7

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Brunswick Stew

INGREDIENTS:
1 broiler/fryer chicken (about 4 lbs/1.8 kg), cut up
1/4 to 1/3 cup (50 to 75 ml) all-purpose flour
2 tbsp (25 ml) canola oil
2 1/3 cups (575 ml) water
1 1/2 cups (500 ml) (375 ml) uncooked long grain rice
1 cup (250 ml) milk
1 tsp (5 ml) salt
1 tsp (5 ml) poultry seasoning
1/2 tsp (2 ml) pepper
Chopped fresh parsley

METHOD:
1. Dredge chicken pieces in flour. In large skillet, brown chicken on all sides in oil over medium heat.
2. In large bowl, combine next six ingredients. Pour into greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. (33 cm x 23 cm x 5 cm) baking dish. Top with chicken.
3. Cover lightly with foil and bake at 350°F (180°C) 55 minutes or until rice and chicken are tender. Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

SERVES 6

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
If you want to find ways to strengthen your relationships this is the ideal day to do it. Affairs of the heart are under excellent stars.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
It may appear as if someone is making life difficult for you for no good reason but is that really the case, or are you overreacting?

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Someone who thinks you lack passion will change their tune when you turn the full force of your desire in their direction.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Certain people have been taking advantage of you and the time has come to do something about it. The current alignment will help you get tough.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Venus in your birth sign makes it easy for you to win people round to your way of thinking, but don't use it as an excuse to impose your ideas.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Everyday affairs are under good stars today and they will be even better if you strive to make people happy, at home and at work.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
The pace of life will pick up dramatically very soon and you will find yourself running all over the place. Today though you must find time to relax.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Most of the time you prefer to keep work matters and affairs of the heart separate, but the cosmic picture will bring them together today.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You don't often get emotional but you will do so today, and for the best possible reasons. The force of your emotions may surprise loved ones.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Someone you work alongside is impressed by the way you conduct yourself and will recommend you for bigger and better things.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You will be attracted to someone you meet socially and it could be the start of a beautiful friendship.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Someone in your working environment will say some nice things about you today and you will most likely be embarrassed by the fuss.

WEEKLY DVD GIVEAWAY!

THIS WEEK YOU CAN WIN:
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OR

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